

**Int. Appl. No. : PCT/EP2004/050209**  
**Int. Filing Date : February 26, 2004**

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please add the following header and paragraph immediately after the Title of the Invention:**

### Related Applications

This application is a U.S. National Phase of International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/050209, filed February 26, 2004 designating the U.S. and published in English on September 9, 2005 as WO 2005/083433.

**Please add the following header immediately above paragraph [0001]:**

### Field of the Invention

**Please add the following header and paragraphs on page 5, immediately after paragraph [0018]:**

### Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 shows the amount of detector antibody C6 bound to CRP in a sandwich assay as absorbance at 450 nm plotted against the concentration of CRP (ng/ml). The binding reaction of detector antibody C6 to the protein CRP was performed as outlined under Example 1 under standard conditions and by using sample buffers according to the present invention, respectively (see table 1). Sample buffers I to III according to the solution of the present invention reduce the influence of the matrix effects very well. Sample buffer I shows the best sensitivity. The low sensitivity of the reference buffer is caused by a strong matrix effect.

Figure 2 shows the influence of two different buffers on high background signals caused by unspecific binding of the polyclonal detector antibody P2 which binds unspecific to the capture antibody P3 (according to Example 2). In this experiment no analyte was present. Sample buffer I decreases significantly the unspecific binding compared to the high background signals with reference example buffer II.

**Please delete lines 4-18 on page 13 of the Specification as filed.**

**Please add an Abstract provided herewith as the last page of the Specification.**